



# SITE VISIT REPORT

<b>Purpose of Site Visit:</b>	<b>Peat Extraction in Co. Offaly</b>
<b>Site Address:</b>	Oldcroghan Bog, Green lane, County Offaly
<b>Date of Visit:</b>	24/05/2023
<b>Times of Visit:</b>	1210 to 1300
<b>Visit Criteria:</b>	Peat extraction investigation
<b>EPA Attendees:</b>	Mick Henry and Kealan Reynolds
<b>Organisation:</b>	Wright Peat Ltd, Bulrush Peat Ltd, Nippy Peat Ltd, Stom Barra Ltd

## **Summary:**

- i) The purpose of the visit was to ascertain whether peat extraction activities were been carried out by the above or their agents on lands owned and controlled by the above or their agents in Co Offaly.
- ii) The site visit commenced on lands that were the subject of correspondence received by the Agency in April 2022 where extraction of peat on a commercial scale was alleged.
- iii) The peatlands under investigation are part of a bog complex at the above address where it is considered that there are a number of different entities involved in peat extraction.

## **Findings of site visit of 24/05/2023:** The following was noted during the visit:

- At the northern end of the bog a large stockpile of milled peat was noted at the loading area. Milled peat machinery and equipment was noted adjacent to this area also.
  - It was noted that milled peat extraction/harvesting activity had recently taken place on some of the banks/rows on the northern part of the peatland.
  - A significant stockpile of milled peat was noted at the northern part of the peatland.
  - Machinery and equipment for milled peat harvesting/extraction was noted at the northern part of the peatland.
  - Covered stockpiles of milled peat were noted to be present at the southern section of the peatland. No recent peat extraction/harvesting was noted on the southern part of the peatland.
  - The scale of the activity and the area involved is on a commercial scale. It is considered that peat extraction is being carried out on an area greater than the 50 hectares threshold and therefore requires an IPC Licence from the Agency.
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**Report prepared  
by:**

Mick Henry &  
Kealan Reynolds

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**Signed:**

*M. Henry*

*Kealan Reynolds*

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**Date:**

05/07/23

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## **Appendix 1**

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## **Appendix 2**

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**Photo 1: Recent milled peat extraction and harvesting noted on the Northern section of the peatland.**

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**Photo 2: Milled peat extraction machinery and equipment was noted at the northern end of the peatland.**

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**Photo 3: Large stockpile of milled peat noted at the northern end of the peatland.**

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